

Rufus Ray Henderson

June 2, 1941 - February 24, 2022

Today, we celebrate the home going of Rufus Ray Henderson, Jr. He was granted his angel wings on Thursday, February 24, 2022, at his home in Waldorf, Maryland.

Rufus was born on Monday, June 2, 1941, in Lafayette, Louisiana, to Rufus R. Henderson, Sr.

and Agnes Mack. As an infant, on June 14, 1941, Rufus was baptized at Saint Paul the Apostle

Catholic Church and given the name "Joseph" Rufus Ray Henderson, Jr. during the baptism.

Later that year, the Henderson family moved to San Francisco, California.

Rufus received his primary and secondary education through the San Francisco Public School

System. After graduating from Balboa High School, he attended San Francisco City College.

He later married his first wife, Martha Davis, and they had a son, Robert, and a daughter, Marcie, together.

In 1989, Rufus met and later married Elvernetta (Elva) Coleman. In this union two families

were joined together as one, resulting in a blended family of one son and four daughters.

Rufus spent his professional career with Safeway Stores Inc. and the Bay Area Rapid Transit.

He received numerous awards, certificates of recognition, and was highly regarded throughout his career. He was passionate about supporting various causes related to his community, career and church.

On May 3, 2009, Rufus joined and was baptized at Beth Eden Baptist Church in Oakland,

California. It was a particularly special day, since he joined on a Sunday in which Elva

directed the Sanctuary Choir. After becoming a member of the church, he immediately joined

the Men's Sunday School class and the Men's Choir. One of his most cherished

accomplishments was leading the multi-million dollar fundraiser campaign for the church's

Family Life Center. Rufus loved the Beth Eden family and looked forward to attending church.

Rufus loved celebrating holidays, birthdays, and sporting events. He was a die-hard sports fan

who fervently supported the San Francisco 49ers and the Golden State Warriors, win or lose.

He was also a numismatist, photographer, imprinter, coach of softball and basketball, and a

martial arts instructor. Additionally, he was a skilled Bid Whist and Free/Cell Solitaire player.

Rufus volunteered his services at music festivals, expos, and received a

plethora of awards.

Despite all of this, what he loved most of all was to be surrounded by his many family members and friends.

Rufus was a devoted son, husband, father, and a friend to all he met. He was affectionately referred to as "Poppa" by his grandchildren.

Although we gather today to celebrate Rufus' life and birth into eternity, he will always be fondly missed by his loving wife, Elvernetta; son, Robert; daughters Marcie, Vangie (Kelvin), LaNell (Larry) and Marindy; seven granddaughters Mauriauna, Taylor, Nielah, Brooke, Tahj, Sascha and Shelby; two grandsons Carter and Larry, III; and one great-granddaughter to arrive this summer.

A visitation will be held on Wednesday, March 16, 2022 from 4PM until time of the memorial service at 6PM at the Raymond Funeral Service, P.A., 5635 Washington Avenue, La Plata, Maryland 20646. The family asks that those attending the memorial service to wear their favorite sports attire.

A celebration of Rufus' life will be held at Beth Eden Baptist Church in Oakland, CA with interment at Oakmont Memorial Gardens in Lafayette, CA at a later date and time, to be announced.

"In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to the Beth Eden Baptist Church Family Life Center, 1183 - 10th Street, Oakland, California

94607. Please include in the memo line "In memory of Rufus Henderson".

Tribute Wall



“ Rufus Ray Henderson

October 08, 2023 at 10:45 PM



“ Rufus Ray Henderson

October 04, 2023 at 03:12 PM



“ Hello I just wanted to share how I and others felt about Rufus from BART, where he retired from. Rufus was an icon at SF Bay Area Rapid Transit. His knowledge of contracts, budgets and how to get your papers processed in a timely manner. He saved so many of us budget coordinators from drowning. He never Said no to any of us. It would always be a group of us that needed help. He would be patient because we could not understand new system. He would help out at Festivals and Fairs. He played a big part every year at the Black Expo in Oakland, California. Your family lost a good man. We were all so sad when we heard way after he had already passed. May he Rest In Heaven!! He was one together brother!!!

lisa - May 24, 2022 at 05:27 PM



“ The little time I was fortunately able to spend with cousin Rufus, I truly enjoyed. He was a very loving, warm and joyful person who made me feel special and see those traits in his children and grandchildren. He will be truly missed and always loved!
Cousin Patrick henderson

C Patrick Henderson - March 16, 2022 at 10:51 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Rufus Ray Henderson.



March 15, 2022 at 11:06 PM



“ With my deepest sympathy, I am wishing peace and comfort as you all celebrate Rufus' life. What a blessing to have shared such a wonderful life with such a loving husband, father, grandfather and friend. Love Robin

Robin Lake - March 15, 2022 at 10:19 PM



My condolences and prayers to the family of Rufus Henderson, a former coworker at BART. May you R.I.H.
Rev. Herbert Collins and Patricia Carter Collins



Patricia Collins - March 16, 2022 at 12:34 AM



Rufus we are so glad you passed through our lives.
Jan and Bill Barrow

Jan barrow - March 16, 2022 at 01:35 PM

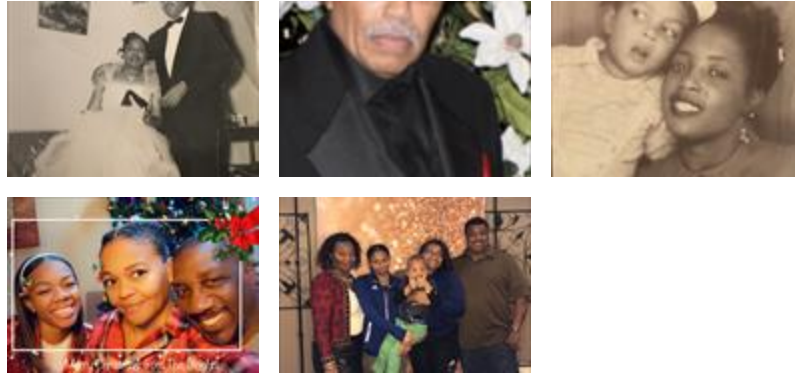


My deepest condolences to the Henderson family, may he rest in peace.

Cyndie Gonzalez - March 16, 2022 at 02:16 PM

EH

“ 14 files added to the album Memories Album



Elvernetta Henderson - March 15, 2022 at 07:45 PM

GW

My condolences to the family. RIP. I think my last memories of you was us hand dancing in my brother Willie's (James) back yard

Geraldine Washington - March 16, 2022 at 03:35 PM

YE

“ Your Elva purchased the Ocean Breeze Spray for the family of Rufus Ray Henderson.



Your Elva - March 15, 2022 at 07:10 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Rufus Ray Henderson.



March 13, 2022 at 09:21 PM

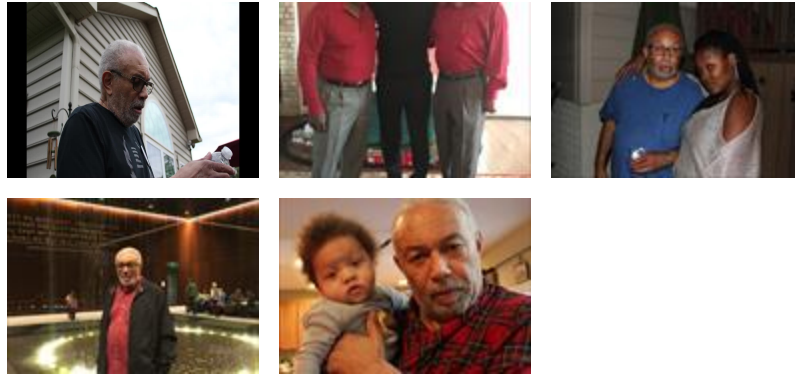
TH

“ I remember my uncle Rufus use to take me and brothers to get donuts when we was little and my Aunt Martha would always say no but Rufus took us anyways....I believe I was 6 years old.....He was a great father and a great uncle.....He will be truly missed 💔 🙏
Love always Tashiera Haywood,

Tashiera Haywood - March 12, 2022 at 05:14 PM

VW

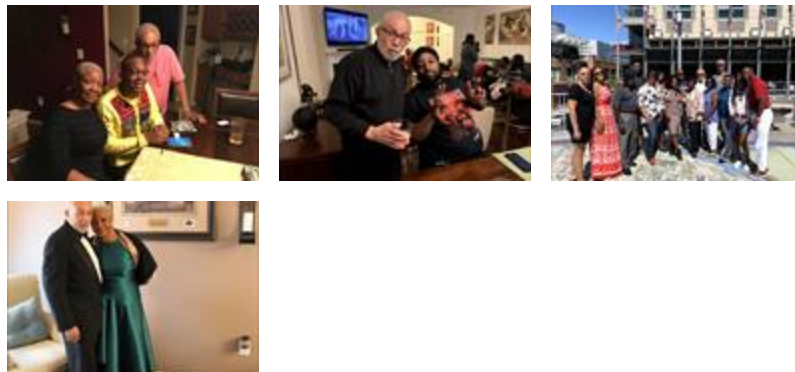
“ 17 files added to the album Memories Album



Vangie Wright - March 12, 2022 at 03:33 PM

VW

“ 4 files added to the album Memories Album



Vangie Wright - March 12, 2022 at 03:29 PM

VW

“ You will be forever in our hearts. We miss you soooo much! Until we meet again.

Vangie, Kelvin & Shelby Wright

Vangie Wright - March 12, 2022 at 02:57 PM

GW

Sorry for your loss. Condolences. Gerri Washington (James Sis)

Geraldine Washington - March 16, 2022 at 03:37 PM